March 7, 1964

Dear Toni,

I have just finished reading the 105 page report of the Black-Osborne Presidential Committee studying the Supersonic Transport program. In a way, it makes me a little sick because if my story had appeared it would certainly establish a rep for me and ~~bring~~ much credit to the magazine publishing it. It makes every major point I made, although, of course, in a different way; it disagrees with nothing I said; and upon any kind of decent analysis it constitutes a pretty thorough criticism of both Halaby and the FAA, even though it goes out of its way to say nice things about both.

Clearly, in its opinion, the sonic boom is the crucial thing, and it doesn't expect any kind of an answer from any kind of a test short of the actual flight of the actual SST.

Apparently the administration is quite aware of all this because they released the report (I haven't seen it analyzed anywhere) under the cover of the supersonic military plane, which got all the attention.

This in no way diminishes the value of my story, as I see it. There is no comparation in approach. But it does completely authenticate me.

It also occurs to me that if the Saturday Evening Post has taken a different line they may be considerably embarrassed.

What little attention the report got, where I saw it, was restricted to the financial pages. I sure hope something can work out before someone else gets the same idea.

Sincerely yours,

Hal

Enclosed is a lead and summary of another of the stories we discussed, "Geese For Peace". I am working on a sequel, what happened to the young American who got my second project, ducks and geese for Liberia.